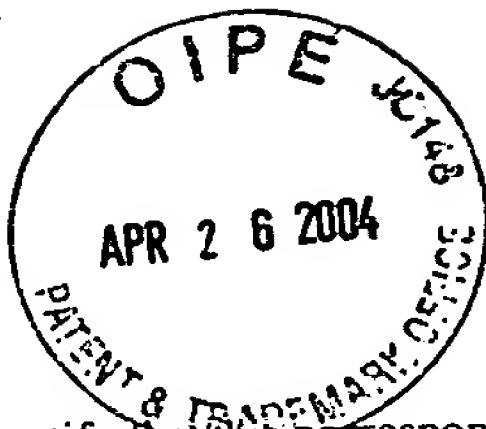


EXHIBIT "A"



I hereby certify that this correspondence is
being transmitted facsimile to:
Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 14,
2003.

Joyce Moore

Name

Signature

P&G Case CM-2553M

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :

Tanguy Marie Louise Alexandre Catlin, et al.:

Serial No.: 09/994,533 : Group Art Unit: 1751

Confirmation No. 8519 :

Filed: November 27, 2001 : Examiner: G. Webb

For: **DETERGENT PRODUCTS, METHODS AND
MANUFACTURE**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed August 6, 2003 (Paper No. 10).

A restriction requirement was imposed under 35 U.S.C. Section 121 that requires the Applicants to elect between eleven separate inventions identified in the Office Action.

The applicants hereby respectfully traverse the restriction requirement, and request that the same be modified so that the Applicant will be able to prosecute all of the claims that dependent from the elected claims.

Section 1.141(a) of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations provides:

- (a) Two or more independent and distinct inventions may not be claimed in one national application, except more than one species of an invention, not to exceed a reasonable number, may be specifically claimed in different claims of a national application, provided the application also includes an allowable claim generic to all the claimed species and all the claims to species in excess of one are written in dependent form (§1.75) or otherwise include all the limitations of the generic claim. (Emphasis added).

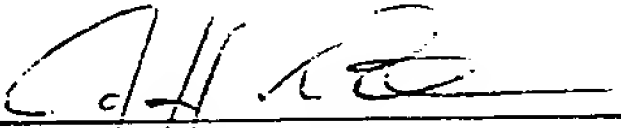
Applying the test set out in the regulations, if the Applicants elect an invention that is covered by an independent claim (such as Claim 1, for instance), the Applicants should be permitted to prosecute all of the claims that are dependent from that claim.

For the purpose of complying with 35 U.S.C. Section §121, however, and without admitting that the restriction requirement is proper, the Applicants elect to prosecute the claims belonging to group I, Claims 1-9 and 23-24.

The Applicants submit, however, that the restriction requirement be modified so that they are permitted to prosecute all of the claims that are dependent, directly or indirectly, from Claim 1. These claims are Claims 1-28

Respectfully submitted.

FOR: Tanguy Marie Louise Alexandre Catlin, et al.

By: 
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August 14, 2003
Customer No. 27752